

Bradford and Melksham Rural
District Council

—:—

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior

Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1960

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District Council

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To the Chairman and Members of the

BRADFORD AND MELKSHAM RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1960 on the health of Bradford and Melksham Rural District.

I have pleasure in recording that a good general standard of health was maintained throughout the year.

Some cases of dysentery occurred during the Spring and one or two of these cases had a persistent infection for several weeks. In view of the prevalence of this disease at that time, routine precautions were emphasised in the schools and much co-operation was received from the school staffs in the implementation of these measures. One village school in particular had a high proportion of cases, and thanks to the energetic co-operation of the Head Teacher, spread of the disease was restricted.

Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified in 1961, two of these cases occurring in Service personnel.

The immunisation statistics show an increase in the number of primary immunisations against diphtheria and whooping cough in 1960 and this year has seen the introduction of tetanus immunisation in welfare clinics and schools. Poliomyelitis vaccination continues and was extended to persons under 40 years of age.

Finally, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council and the Health Committee for their encouragement, and my colleagues for their help during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

P. J. SPELLER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

P. J. SPELLER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H..

who is also Medical Officer of Health to Melksham Urban District and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

W. A. NOBLE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

D. L. EVANS, M.A.P.H.I.

Offices:

The office of the Medical Officer of Health is 1 King Street, Melksham. Tel. Melksham 2307.

The office of the Senior Public Health Inspector is in Abbey House, Bradford on Avon. Tel. Bradford on Avon 2174.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District (Acres)	...	...	...	26,868
Number of Parishes	...	...	...	13
Estimated Population (including Service Personnel)				13,230
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	3,545
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£110,192
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£447

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

The following statistics have been compiled from information received from the Registrar General:—

Births

Live Births

<i>Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	79	92	171
Illegitimate	5	2	7
Total number of live births ...	84	94	178

Birth Rate for the District (i.e., per 1,000 population)	16.7
Comparative figure for England and Wales	17.1

Still Births

<i>Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Total number of still births ...	2	2	4

Still Birth Rate for the District per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	22.0
Comparative figure for England and Wales	19.7

Deaths

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of Deaths in the Area ...	77	61	138
Local Death Rate (i.e., per 1,000 population)		...	10.4
Comparative figure for England and Wales ...		...	11.5

Infant Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of deaths ...	3	—	3

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age (included above)

<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total number of deaths ...	3	—	3

Infant Mortality Rates

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births—Total ...	16.8
Comparative figure for England and Wales ...	21.7
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (1st four weeks)	16.8

Causes of Deaths

The causes of deaths classified according to the Registrar General's system, are given in the following table:—

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	...	...	...	1	1	2
(other)	...	...	...	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic disease	...			—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm (stomach)	...			1	1	2
(lung bronchus)				6	—	6
(breast)	...			—	4	4
(uterus)	...			—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms				7	6	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...		1	1	2
Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...			10	10	20
Coronary disease, Angina	...	...		11	7	18
Hypertension with heart disease	...			1	—	1
Other heart disease	...	...	...	12	14	26
Other circulatory disease	...	...		4	4	8
Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	6	3	9
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	—	2
Other diseases of the respiratory system				—	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...			1	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...			—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...		1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...		1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...			—	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...		—	—	—
Other defined and ill defined diseases	...			7	7	14
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...		4	—	4
All other accidents	...	...	...	1	1	2
Suicide	...	...	...	—	—	—
Homicide and Operations of War	...			—	—	—
Totals				77	61	138

Age and Sex Incidence of Deaths from Heart and Arterial Disease

THESE TABLES HAVE BEEN COMPILED FROM LOCAL INFORMATION

Under 30		Under 40		Under 50		Under 60		Under 70		Under 80		Under 90		Over 90	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	7	13	6	12	15	2	4

Age and Sex Incidence of Death from Cancer

Location of Cancer	Under 30		Under 40		Under 50		Under 60		Under 70		Under 80		Under 90		Over 90	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cancer of Bowel	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Breast	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alimentary (other than above)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Genital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reproductive	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—

OUTLINE OF THE HEALTH SERVICES OPERATING IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory, Manor Hospital, Bath, undertakes all necessary bacteriological and pathological examinations in the district.

The laboratory with its skilled staff, provides a most valuable service with regard to the examination of drinking water, food and milk samples, throat swabs, etc., and their willing co-operation and expert advice is much appreciated.

Hospital Facilities

The South-Western Regional Hospital Board is responsible for hospital facilities in this district.

The two hospitals in the area are a general hospital at Melksham, and a hospital for the chronic sick at Semington. Other general hospitals are situated in Devizes and Trowbridge, with larger ones in Bath and Bristol.

The nearest hospital for the treatment of common infectious disease is Bath Isolation Hospital. The nearest Smallpox Hospital is at Bristol.

County Health Facilities

The following health services operating in the district are provided by the County Health Committee:—

Care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Health Visiting.

Home Nursing.

Arrangements for vaccination and immunisation.

Ambulances and ambulance cars.

Domestic Helps.

Arrangements under Part III of the National Health Service

Act for the prevention of illness; care and after-care; and health education.

Mental Health Service.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Comparison with Previous Years

<i>Disease</i>	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Scarlet Fever	4	6	2	1	4	5
Whooping Cough	40	24	52	4	7	7
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	—	1	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	183	21	126	9	191	9
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	5	3	3	3	3	2
Dysentery	1	—	2	—	1	30
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	1	—	—
Salmonellosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1	—	1	—	1
Tuberculosis	6	2	14	3	5	5

Number of Cases and Admissions to Hospital

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>
Scarlet Fever	5	—
Whooping Cough	7	—
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	—	—
Non-paralytic	—	—
Measles	9	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Pneumonia	2	1
Dysentery	30	1
Erysipelas	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—
Salmonellosis	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1
Tuberculosis	5	3

The distribution of cases according to age and sex are shown in the following tables.

Analysis under Age Groups

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>		<i>Acute Poliomyelitis</i>		<i>Measles</i>		<i>Diphtheria</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
3-4 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
5-9 years	—	1	3	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
10-14 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
15-24 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not known	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	2	3	4	—	—	6	3	—	—

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>		<i>Dysentery</i>		<i>Meningococcal Inf.</i>		<i>Puerperal Pyrexia</i>		<i>Tuberculosis</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
5-14 years	—	—	8	4	—	—	—	—	1	—
15-44 years	1	—	2	5	—	—	—	1	3	—
45-64 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not known	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	—	16	14	—	—	—	1	5	—

Distribution in Parishes

<i>Parishes</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Paralytic</i>	<i>Non- Paralytic</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Dysentery</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Meningo- coccal Infection</i>	<i>Salmon- ellosis</i>	<i>Tuber- culosis</i>	<i>Paetberal Pyrexia</i>
Atworth	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broughton	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Hilperton	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Holt	1	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Limpley Stoke	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	1	—
Melksham	2	5	—	—	1	1	9	—	—	—	—	2	1
Monkton Farleigh	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Semington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Wraxall	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Staverton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Westwood	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Wingfield	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Winsley	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5	7	—	—	9	2	30	—	—	—	—	5	1

Poliomyelitis

No cases of poliomyelitis were reported.

Tuberculosis

New Cases

1955	...	...	...	...	6
1956	...	...	...	...	2
1957	...	...	...	...	14
1958	...	...	...	...	3
1959	...	...	...	...	5
1960	...	...	...	...	5

Distribution of new cases according to age, sex, and localisation of disease, is as follows:—

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>New</i>		<i>Cases</i>		<i>Deaths</i>	
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Under 1 year	—	—	1	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-15 years	—	—	1	—	—	—
16-25 years	2	—	—	—	—	—
26-35 years	1	—	—	—	—	—
36-45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
46-55 years	—	—	—	—	—	1
56-65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	1	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	—	2	—	1	1

From the above table it will be seen that 3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1960. Two deaths from tuberculosis were recorded.

Re-housing of Tuberculosis Patients

Cases are referred from time to time by the Chest Physician for consideration for re-housing. These cases are classified as follows:—

Certificate No. 1. Sputum-positive cases where re-housing is considered urgent for the prevention of infection.

Certificate No. 2. Where better housing would be desirable in order to improve and maintain the patient's health.

Certificate No. 3. Where improved housing would be beneficial but is not an urgent matter.

None of the above certificates was received during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Diphtheria immunisation is carried out systematically throughout the district by General Practitioners and County Medical Officers, in homes, schools and clinics.

Immunisation Statistics, 1960

Age Group		Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14
Primary imms. completed during 1960	Dip	129	20	18			12	—
	Wh/c	121	19		17		2	—
Re-inf. inj. administered during 1960	Dip.	—	6		41		109	1
	Wh/c	—	6	35			29	1
Total immunised child population at 31st Dec., 1960	Pre 1/1/56	—	—	—	—	—	193	644
	Post 1/1/56	37	113	96	85	98	462	67

Compared with 1959 the number of primary immunisations against diphtheria rose from 102 to 179. The number of reinforcing injections administered rose from 125 to 157.

The total immunised child population at the end of the year was 1,795 compared with 1,917 in 1959. The number of primary whooping cough immunisations rose from 90 to 159 and reinforcing rose from 52 to 71.

Smallpox Vaccination

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during 1960:—

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 or over</i>
Vaccinations	74	1	8	11	11
Re-vaccinations	—	—	2	13	23

105 primary vaccinations were undertaken compared with 76 in the previous year. Re-vaccinations rose from 9 to 38.

Vaccination is performed under the National Health Service by General Practitioners. Emergency clinics can be operated in the event of an outbreak of smallpox in County Health Clinics at Salisbury and Swindon. Vaccination propaganda is undertaken by the County Health Authority.

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were reported.

National Assistance Act, 1948

SECTION 47 : REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

It was not found necessary to obtain compulsory removal of any persons against their will from their homes.

This step is one that should only be considered after all assistance that can be given by Home Helps, District Nurses, National Assistance Officers and Welfare Officers, etc., has failed to provide the care and attention needed.

REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my thirteenth Annual Report to this Council.

During 1960, routine inspections and improvements have continued. Special mention should be made of the progress obtained under the Clean Air Act, 1956, the work entailed by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and the Report (approved by the Ministry) on Slaughterhouse Facilities under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

I would ask the Chairman and Members of the Council and Committees to accept this expression of gratitude for their guidance, also Dr. Speller for his co-operation and Mr. Evans, Miss Pile, Mrs. Godfrey and Miss Penny for their assistance so readily given. The Rodent Operator has continued his duties to the obvious satisfaction of the householders in the district.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. A. NOBLE,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

STAFF

Additional Public Health Inspector	Mr. D. L. Evans
Clerk/Typist	Miss V. A. Pile, (resigned on 20th June, 1960) Mrs. E. Godfrey, (from 13th June to 9th September, 1960) Miss J. Penny, (commenced duty on 7th September, 1960)
Rodent Operator	Mr. A. H. Hart
Refuse Collection	Mr. J. H. Goodenough, (Foreman/Driver) Mr. H. Genders, (Driver) Mr. P. Sutherland, (Loader/Relief Driver) Mr. R. C. Trott, (Loader/Relief Driver) Mr. R. G. Howe Mr. M. Stecak

Tip Operators

Mr. P. Sawyer
Mr. G. Humphries

MEAT AND FOODS

			<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Bakehouses	...	...	1	16	1	1
Slaughterhouses	...	...	2	459	—	—
Butchers' Shops	...	...	4	12	1	2
Catering Establishments	...	23	24	3	—	—
Food Shops	...	...	44	161	4	3
Schools	...	...	16	20	1	1
Licensed Premises	...	...	29	53	7	3
Licensed Slaughtermen	...	4	—	—	—	—
Licensed Game Premises	...	1	3	—	—	—

Note—It will be noticed throughout this report that, on occasion, more notices are shown as "complied with" than "served." This is explained by work, requested in 1959, being completed in 1960.

The two private slaughterhouses have continued in operation during the year (animals slaughtered and condemnation figures are shown in Appendix "A"). Compliance with the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, has mainly been obtained.

The Report on Slaughterhouse Facilities under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, was submitted to and accepted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the date for compliance with the construction regulations will be 1st January, 1962. The outstanding work in this respect is not large.

We have maintained 100% inspection by the working of overtime including every Sunday and Bank Holiday. Ante-mortem inspection is not possible. No horses have been slaughtered during the year.

The success of the Tuberculosis Attested Area scheme is shown by our condemnation figures. The few cases of tuberculosis, which have been discovered, are referred to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry for enquiries at the farm concerned.

The Council accepted my report in December giving details of the arrangements made under the Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960.

Neither of our slaughterhouses have facilities for sterilisation and it has been agreed that condemned carcase meat shall be stained green and then conveyed to approved premises, outside the district for sterilisation.

The Council were very concerned about the poor conditions at a bakehouse in the district. The proprietor was interviewed and it is pleasing to report that the bakehouse is not now in use.

As mentioned in the Annual Report for 1959, we have commenced a modest routine of sampling pies, ham, fish cakes, etc.. for bacteriological examination.

The results for the year are as follows:—

<i>Nature of Sample</i>				<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. of Satisfactory Samples</i>
Pressed Tongue	...	...	...	1	—
Steak and Kidney Pie	...	...	...	2	2
Pork Pie	...	...	...	4	3
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	11	6
Fish Fingers	...	...	...	1	1

The unsatisfactory results are referred to the Local Authority of the place of manufacture and Dr. Mann is in close touch with the Manufacturers of the fish cakes.

ICE-CREAM

				<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Retailers	...	...	...	36	262	—	—
Manufacturers	...	...	...	—	—	—	—

The popularity of this food is maintained and our sampling routine proves that the hygienic quality of the supplies is very good.

Total Number of Samples 218

Percentage of Samples

<i>Grade I</i>	<i>Grade I or II</i>	<i>Grade III</i>	<i>Grade IV</i>
97%	100%	—	—

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade I, 80% into Grade I or II, no more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV.

MILK AND DAIRIES

Milk and Dairies Regulations

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Dairies	1	286	1	1
Distributors	5			
Dairymen operating from outside district ...	17			
Producer/Retailer ...	7			

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

"Tuberculin Tested" Dealers Licences	...	...	7
"Pasteurised" Dealers Licences	...	...	7
Supplementary "Tuberculin Tested" Licences	...	...	15
Supplementary "Pasteurised" Licences	...	...	14
Supplementary "Sterilised" Licence	...	...	1

Set out below are the sample results of "designated" milk.

Number of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk Samples	...	109
Number of Satisfactory "Tuberculin Tested" Milk Samples	...	103
Number of "Pasteurised" Milk Samples	...	88
Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised" Milk Samples	...	88
Number of "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" Milk Samples	...	72
Number of Satisfactory "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)" Milk Samples	...	72
Number of "Sterilised" Milk Samples	...	6
Number of Satisfactory "Sterilised" Milk Samples	...	6
Number of Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus and Brucella Abortus	...	44
Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus	...	44
Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Brucella Abortus	...	42

Our sampling routine has involved considerable time and travelling. By virtue of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, the duty of licensing and sampling is transferred to the County Council as from 1st January, 1961. At the end of the year, the County Council had made enquiry as to whether District Councils were prepared to undertake these duties as a delegated power.

Biological samples have been satisfactory except for two biological samples giving positive results for Brucellosis. The dairyman's supply was discontinued from the farm concerned.

WATER

Number of Public Water Supplies in the District	...	5
Number of Bacteriological Samples obtained during 1960		38
Number of samples taken for chemical analysis during 1960		--

Appendix "B" of this report sets out the sample results for the year.

I am not in a position to give, with any degree of accuracy, the number of houses and the population in each parish supplied from public water mains direct to houses or by means of standpipes. None of the water supplies appear to be liable to plumbo-solvent action.

The number of public supplies has decreased considerably in the 13 years I have been in office with the Council.

A special series of samples was taken in December following severe flooding in this area. The results were excellent.

FACTORIES

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Factories with power	... 27	36	4	3
Factories without power	... 2	2	—	—
Outworkers	... 5	—	—	—

The requirements of the Factories Act, 1937, appear to be complied with and full details, as required by the Ministry, are mentioned in Appendix "C."

SHOPS

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Shops	... 42	26	—	—

The requirments of the Shops Act, are fulfilled and conditions are generally satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

		<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Licences Refused ...	...	—	} 108	2	2
Individual Licences ...	...	—		
Site Licences ...	...	11			

It is pleasing to report that no complaints have been received during the year regarding gypsies at Norrington Common.

All sites, licensed by the Council, have been inspected to ensure compliance with the licence conditions.

A special report was submitted to the Public Health Committee in November on the implications of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. All our sites are small (the largest having 9 caravans) and the Council agreed seven standard conditions relating to number of caravans on site, water supply, sanitary accomodation, disposal of waste water, paths, fire extinguisher and refuse bin.

RODENT CONTROL

Details, in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, are given in Appendix "D."

The Rodent Operator has continued with his routine inspections, including farm inspections. We now have 15 farm contracts for which a fixed charge is made, each farm is visited every 4 months and the necessary treatments carried out.

During the year, the Holt Sewerage System was test baited twice and the new Atworth Sewerage System on one occasion. I am pleased to say there were "no takes."

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection throughout the District is maintained with a limited service for some trade refuse. A collection, under contract, at the R.A.F. Station, Melksham Without, is in operation with very satisfactory results. The Council have two 10 cu. yd. refuse collection vehicles—one Bedford and one Ford. Apart from normal running troubles, these give very good service.

The tip at Westwood is nearing completion and a supply of top soil has been obtained for final cover. Planning permission has been granted for the use of an alternative site nearby.

SALVAGE

During the year, the following items of salvage have been sold:—

	Weight				Approx. Value		
	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Wools	—	2	3	2	12	0	4
Rags	3	4	0	14	27	16	3
Waste Paper	22	6	3	0	156	7	3
Scrap Metal	4	6	2	8	70	10	3
Total ...					£266	14	1

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

This service, brought into operation in 1948, has been utilised to clear 459 cesspools and septic tanks during 1960.

The Contractors, employed by the Council, visit the District every three months and it has been useful to many householders to have a standing order for such clearances with the Council.

The service has grown from 75 clearances in 1948 to 459 clearances in 1960.

HOUSING

Number of houses inspected and recorded	...	...	29
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	29
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	—
Number of Demolition Orders issued	...	...	14
Number of Closing Orders issued	...	...	10
Number of undertakings accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	8
Number of notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	—

The Council's policy is to formally deal with dwellings which were placed in Category IV in the Housing Survey and similarly to deal with properties becoming vacant where re-letting might provide a "stepping stone" to Council re-housing. The policy has been pursued through the year and 29 cottages have been so formally reported to the Housing Committee as suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. Every endeavour is

made to persuade owners to undertake re-conditioning schemes and to take advantage of Improvement Grants.

During the year, 3 cottages were demolished and 6 re-conditioned.

47 Discretionary Grants (total £16,777 10s. 0d.) and 17 Standard Grants under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, have been made during 1960. Some considerable discussion and inspections are a preliminary to such applications but the work is well justified by the results.

No applications have been made during the year for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	213
Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	...	6
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	—
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	11
Number of statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	—

RIVERS, STREAMS AND SEWERAGE

Four of the thirteen parishes (Atworth, Hilperton, Holt and Winsley) now have sewerage systems and further schemes are envisaged by the Council. Throughout the District, informal action has been taken to prevent pollution of streams and water courses, but sewer ditches continue to be a problem.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in this area. Various samples and some advisory work was undertaken for private pools at schools in the District.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Following the last two years' preliminary work, I am glad to say that co-operation with the Managements of various firms has been very well sustained and the following condensed results of smoke observations taken with Ringlemann Charts show the improvement which has been obtained. (The percentage of observations showing non-compliance is, for the respective quarters, 21%, 7%, 25% and 20%).

Smoke Observations, 1960

	<i>Premises</i>	1959		<i>Jan.-Mar.</i>		<i>Apr.-Jun.</i>		<i>Jul.-Sep.</i>		<i>Oct.-Dec.</i>	
		<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>
A	...	15	9	6	-	4	-	2	-	3	-
B	...	20	4	6	-	4	-	2	-	3	-
C	...	17	2	6	-	4	-	2	-	2	1
D	...	16	5	5	2	5	-	2	-	3	-
E	...	19	-	4	3	4	1	1	1	1	3
F	...	12	7	4	3	4	1	-	2	4	-
Total		99	27	31	8	25	2	9	3	16	4

“C” indicates compliance with the Clean Air Act and the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958.

“N” indicates non-compliance.

It should be mentioned that as regards premises “E,” I have a written assurance that some old hand fired Lancashire boilers will be replaced with a modern type boiler. Considerable structural work will be entailed and the installation will commence by the end of 1961.

In the case of premises “F,” different types of fuel are being tried and the matter is actively before the Regional Board who control the premises.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Number of Premises Registered	...	...	...	2
Number of Visits	...	...	...	7
Number of Samples obtained	...	...	...	8

Three samples of rag flock, two of feathers, two of hair and one of cotton felt were obtained during the year. To save expense, these samples were taken informally.

I am pleased to report that all the samples proved satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of Premises Licensed	...	...	...	1
Number of Visits	...	...	...	1

Before renewal of the licence, the premises are visited by me and the Local Inspector of the R.S.P.C.A., to whom my thanks are due for co-operation and advice.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

The Rodent Operator has continued with the inspection of farms under this Act in conjunction with his rodent control farm

inspections. The necessary details of 9 farms have been officially recorded.

So far, we have not found it necessary to serve any notices under the Act and it seems to me that, as far as the provisions enforceable by local authorities are concerned, the type of farm in this area does not provide difficulties.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

One of the premises licensed by the Council under the above Order has been discontinued and the licence cancelled. The remaining six premises have been visited and conditions appear quite reasonable.

OFFICES ACT, 1960

This Act comes into force on the 1st January, 1962. When the regulations regarding health, safety and welfare are issued, a preliminary survey appears desirable.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

The terms of this new Act were discussed by the Public Health Committee. Obviously, a rural district such as this does not provide serious noise problems, but the provisions of the Act would be employed when the occasion arises.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

I would like to make special mention of the very good service given to this Council by Dr. Mann and the Public Health Laboratory at Manor Hospital, Bath. All our milk, ice-cream and water samples are given prompt attention and it is of very great assistance to have Dr. Mann's advice so readily available.

GENERAL

The following visits have been made in connection with miscellaneous items requiring attention:—

Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	732
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	75
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous Housing Visits and Small Dwellings Acquisition Act enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	915
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	348
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	18

APPENDIX "A"

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed ...	690	1,442	809	74	21	—
Number inspected ...	690	1,442	809	74	21	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	17	9	5	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	110	638	12	3	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	16.1	45.4	2.6	10.8	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	3	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	0.14	0.2	—	—	4.8	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	1	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX "B"

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1960

<i>addns to swan</i>	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Remarks
Bath City (Combe Down) Supply	S (2)	—	—	S (2)	—	—	S (2)	—	—	S (2)	—	S (2)	Chlorinated supply
Holt Water Supply	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	S (1)	Chlorinated supply
Chippenhams Water Scheme	S (3)	—	—	S (3)	—	—	S (3)	—	—	S (3)	—	S (1)	Chlorinated supply
Turtleigh Troughs Supply	U (1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Warning notice fixed in August, 1949.
West Wilts Water Board	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	S (1)	Chlorinated supply

Note—S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes unsatisfactory result due to the presence of faecal coli. (Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.

APPENDIX "C"

FACTORIES

Inspections

- (1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority (non-power)
- (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (power)
- (3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)

	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(1)	2	2	—	—
(2)	27	36	2	—
(3)	—	—	—	—

Defects

	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred By H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	4	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX "D"

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for twelve months ended 31st December, 1960

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3) (4)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authorities' District	6	3,500	312	3,818	220
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	—	32	3	35	2
(b) Survey under the Act	6	108	18	132	50
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	152	152	—
III. Total Inspections carried out, including re-inspections	Not	readily	available		
IV. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major	1	—	2	3	1
Minor	5	79	11	95	24
(b) Mice Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	15	3	18	—

APPENDIX "D" (continued)

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for twelve months ended 31st December, 1960

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural (5)
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3) (4)	
V. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	6	94	13	113	17
VI. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	Not readily available				
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act: (a) Treatment (b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "block" control schemes carried out	—	4	—	4	—

